

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above referenced application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Rejection - 35 USC § 112

Claim 5 has been indicated to be rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph.

Claim 5 depends from a canceled claim. The dependency of claim 5 has been amended to depend from independent claim 18.

For the above reason withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 under 35 USC § 112 is requested.

Amendment

Claim 5 has been amended to correct dependency to independent claim 18.

Rejection - 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 3, 10-14 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 5,200,162 to Riley, et al. (Riley) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,056,928 to Fetzer, et al. (Fetzer) for reasons at pages 2-3 of the Office Action.

Should the present rejection be maintained clarification of the citation to Riley is requested.

At page 3 of the Office Action Riley is cited at column 4, lines 34-38 and column 8, lines 48-51 and at Example 10. Riley does not have an Example 10.

Claims 3, 5-6, 10-14 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 4,571,329 Kato et al. in view of Fetzer for reasons at pages 4-5 of the Office Action.

Claims 3, 10-11 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 5,756,057 to Tsuchitani et al. in view of Fetzer for reasons at pages 5-6 of the Office Action.

Applicants note that rejection of the current claims is based on four of the references which included in the prior rejection which were the subject of the Office Action dated April 8, 2004. Applicants remain of the opinion that the above claims are not obvious over the above combination of references for the reasons presented in their Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 dated October 6, 2004. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection under 35 USC § 103 and allowance of said claims.

Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same. Should the Examiner have any further questions or require further clarification, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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